

Yomp Mountain Challenge June 5th 2005 - Report

Total Entries this year was 524 . Full Course 193, Half Course 257, Short Course 74
Slightly down on last year but considering the inclement weather conditions with heavy rain for most of the day it was a splendid turnout and much more than we expected. Even more surprising were the three new records set on the day. Jos Livesey knocking an incredible 15mins off the record set back in 1991 by Angus Shedden. Peter C Brittleton took one minute off his personal best and his previous record and the Brittpak Team took 12 minutes off their previous record time set in 2003.

The team from the Rotary Club of Keswick consisting of Rotarians Mike Ryder, Ian Dixon and Patrick Stokes won the High Seat Cup and Rotarian Stan Frost of Upper Eden leading a team of his family members on the Full course came home in a very creditable time of 9hrs 13mins.

Her Majesty's Forces were particularly well represented on the day with contingents of Regular and Volunteer Regiments in the Half and Full Courses. The Lancastrian & Cumbria Volunteers had a total contingent of 46 taking part.

Members of the Air Cadet Force gave valuable assistance on checkpoint duties as did many local volunteers and the wives of Rotary Club members. The St Johns Ambulance Service provided a First Aid Service and the Local Mountain Rescue Team were on stand-by in case of any emergencies.

Local friends of Rotarians came out on their Quad bikes and marked out the routes and carried supplies to the checkpoints on the high points whilst others turned out with their trailers to provide some shelter for Marshals and for some tired Yompers at the various Roadside checkpoints.

Trophies and medals were presented to the winning Individuals and Teams by the Rotary Club President George Hodgkinson in the late afternoon and the proceeds will be donated to this year's chosen Charitable causes later this month . All finishers also received a special Certificate to commemorate their special day on the Fells.

Cumbria Classic Coaches once again kindly provided a vintage double decker bus complete with suitably attired attendants, to convey the Short Yomp entrants from Kirkby Stephen up to their starting point at Tailbridge on the Nateby to Swaledale road. A truly spectacular trip enjoyed by the full load of passengers in spite of the rain.

The basic costs for the printing of posters and forms, publicity, equipment and postages etc for this years event were generously covered by sponsorship from W A Developments of Appleby and the Clear cool bottled spring water was kindly donated by Eden Valley Mineral Water Company of Armathwaite.

The quickest Yompers on the 6 ½ mile Short Yomp also deserve a mention. They were :-

J.Hall 1hr 5mins
S.White 1hr 8mins
T.Hall and K.Hall 1hr 19mins
K.Pulham & S.Pulham 1hr 23 mins

The Rotary Club offer their most sincere thanks to all who supported us on the day and in the preparations for the event. After an intensive debriefing session the Club will draw up it's plans for the 2006 event. If anybody who took part in the Yomp has any suggestions for improvements we would be very pleased to hear from them whilst the ideas are still fresh in their minds.